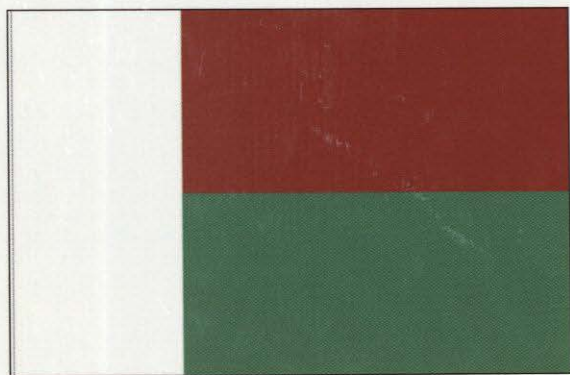


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INTRODUCTION

Madagascar has inspired an abundance of literature, both by the Malagasy themselves and by foreign observers, with the bulk of readily accessible material written in French. Although this abundance is an advantage for researchers, it creates problems for the bibliographer and imposes some criteria of selection. We have been particularly selective among materials written before 1960 (the Grandidier volume for the period from 1933 to 1956 has over 20,000 entries) and have included only a selection of important articles dealing with topics—such as the origins of the Malagasy—discussed in the body of the Dictionary. We have also tried to include at least one title by each of the important writers on Madagascar and to cite major scholarly works by participants in Malagasy politics, like the poet-politician Jacques Rabemananjara.

Coverage of the period since 1960 is less restrictive, in part because materials are less abundant. We have tried to include all books of importance as well as articles from the major Malagasy journals of history and geography: *Omaly sy Anio*, *Taloha*, *Tantara*, and *Madagascar: Revue de Géographie*. Other French-language periodicals published in Madagascar are listed in the Bibliography with their dates of publication. We have excluded articles in Malagasy on the assumption that anyone who reads the language is likely to have access to existing lists of resources about the island. Entries under a given author are listed chronologically.

Overviews of various periods of Malagasy history, in English, are to be found in the volumes of the Cambridge *History of Africa* and the more recent UNESCO *General History of Africa*. Yearly reviews of Malagasy politics and economics can be found in the *Annuaire des pays de l'Océan Indien* (APOI in the Bibliography) and in *Africa Contemporary Record*.

Monthly and weekly coverage can frequently be found in *Jeune Afrique*, *Afrique Contemporaine*, *Africa Confidential*, *The Africa Research Bulletin* (political and economic issues), and more abundantly in the *Lettre de l'Océan Indien/Indian Ocean Newsletter* and *Marchés Tropicaux et Méditerranéens*. *Africa South of the Sahara* has a general overview of Malagasy history, politics, and economy, with annual updates.

Important titles can be found on virtually all of the topics in this bibliography, most but not all of them in French. The two best general studies are by major authorities on Malagasy history—Hubert Deschamps' brief treatment in the *Que sais-je* series and Pierre Vérin's 1992 *Madagascar*. Patrick Rajoelina and Alain Ramelet produced a more recent introduction, *Madagascar, la grande île*. Visitors to the great island may consult Hilary Bradt's 1997 *Guide to Madagascar* and Mauro's *Country Guide* in the *Le Petit Futé* series. Former British Ambassador Mervyn Brown's *Madagascar Rediscovered* treats island history up to the 1970s. For pre-20th-century history, intriguing titles abound, including the works of the Grandidières and Chapus' translation of the Merina royal narratives (the *Tantaran'ny andriana*). In English, Raymond Kent supplies a definitive study of *Early Kingdoms* of the 16th through 18th centuries, with an emphasis on linkages between the island and the African continent. Vérin's *History of Civilization in Northern Madagascar* is highly recommended. Studies of the colonial period are almost entirely dominated by French-language works, including speculation on the tragic rebellion of 1947, from Pierre Boiteau's indictment of the colonial regime to Jacques Tronchon's more balanced assessment (*L'insurrection malgache de 1947*), coming full circle to Raymond William Rabemananjara's reindictment of imperial France in *Madagascar: l'affaire de mars 1947*. Antoine Bouillon's psychological interpretation of *le colonisé et son 'âme'* rivals Octave Mannoni's classic analysis, translated as *Prospero and Caliban: the Psychology of Colonization*.

Postindependence history has been best treated through specialized articles, especially those in the *Annuaire des pays de l'Océan Indien* (APOI), while political culture and ideology are reflected in works by the authors of this Dictionary. Authoritative French-language assessments of the successive Malagasy republics are contributed by Charles Cadoux and Pascal Chaigneau, as well as Patrick Rajoelina in *Quarante*

années de vie politique. The best fullscale treatment of the modern economy is Frederic L. Pryor's comparison of Malawi and Madagascar, *The Political Economy of Poverty, Equity, and Growth*. Rajoelina's *Madagascar: refondation et développement* is more current as are periodic sectoral studies by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

Sociological and anthropological inquiry has proliferated in Madagascar over more than a century, with excellent monographs on ethnic groups—Father Dubois' on the Betsileo, Faublée on the Bara, and, in English, Linton on the Tanala, Feeley-Harnik on the Sakalava—as well as salient social problems and cultural specificities like the communitarian *fokonolona* and various forms of spirit possession. Notable syntheses include Gérard Althabe's brilliant *Oppression et libération dans l'imaginaire* and Jean-Pierre Raison's study of *Les hautes terres*, as well as Raymond Decary's classic *Moeurs et coutumes des Malgaches*. Much fine work can also be found in English, particularly Maurice Bloch's prodigious anthropological research on highland societies (his *From Blessing to Violence* is a scholarly must-read), W. R. Huntington's *Gender and Social Structure* and Karen Middleton's recent *Ancestors, Power, and History in Madagascar*. Valuable collections of culture studies have been edited by Evers and Spindler and folklorist Lee Haring.

Education, most often treated in journal articles and monographs, is intricately linked with economic development in the World Bank's 2002 study, *Education and Training in Madagascar*. The most probing of several good books on religion is Françoise Raison-Jourde's *Bible et pouvoir à Madagascar*. While classified here under philosophy, Richard Andriamanjato's thesis, *Le tsiny et le tody dans la pensée malgache* provides a most authoritative Christian explanation of Malagasy culture. Jacques Dez has contributed several important studies of the Malagasy language and Bakoly Domenichini-Ramiaramanana has carried on the tradition of the illustrious Jean Paulhan in analysis of traditional Malagasy poetry. The great book on Malagasy arts has yet to be written, but music is conscientiously served by Mireille Rakotomalala in her 2003 study, *Madagascar: la musique dans l'histoire*. An impressive library on Madagascar's unique environment and its denizens is best exemplified by Alison Jolly's splendid *A World Like Our Own*.

Few libraries in the English-speaking world contain more than a basic collection on Madagascar. To conduct research in any discipline re-

quires an extended sojourn in France, Réunion, and the Great Island itself, and even in those environments, materials tend to be scattered among official archives (the French Government collection at Fontainebleau, for instance) and universities with Indian Ocean research departments. The most useful among these are at the universities of Aix-Marseilles (Aix-en-Provence), Nice, and Paris X (Nanterre). These collections include doctoral and masters dissertations on important areas of Malagasy society and history. The most likely places to find materials for purchase are at the Harmattan bookstore in Paris and the Librairie de Madagascar in Antananarivo.

Internet resources are growing rapidly in virtually all fields of pertinence to Madagascar. A nearly complete collection of URLs is available from www.123madagascar@ibonia.com. Each of the French-language daily newspapers and periodicals maintains its own website with access to archives; among the most reliable are *L'Express*, *Midi-Madagasikara*, and *La Tribune*. All major ministries and embassies of the Republic of Madagascar, and the main political parties, maintain somewhat desultory websites. The official government website is www.madagascar.gov.mg, and visitors to the capital should obtain information through www.iarivo-town.mg. Indigo Publications' stable of useful resources can be consulted at www.africaintelligence.fr.

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